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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/529,210	07/24/2000	GORDON REX PATERSON DOUGAL	9052-53	1793
20792	7590	03/25/2004	EXAMINER	
MYERS BIGEL SIBLEY & SAJOVEC PO BOX 37428 RALEIGH, NC 27627			JOHNSON III, HENRY M	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3739	28	
DATE MAILED: 03/25/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/529,210	DOUGAL, GORDON REX PATERSON
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Henry M Johnson, III	3739

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 5-26 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 5-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 27.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed February 9, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The wavelengths cited by Salansky in claim 1, include the specific wavelengths of 1072 nm and 1268 nm of the instant application. The bandwidth cited by Salansky is not to exceed 30-40 nm. With a 40 nm bandwidth, the 1072 nm radiation would not drop below 1052nm and the 1268 nm radiation would not exceed 1288 nm, thus both are well within the disclosed transmission spectrum of water of 980 to 1300 nm. Thus Salansky clearly anticipates the bandwidth of the application. Salansky teaches power densities at the high end from 1 to 5 W/cm² over a range of wavelengths from 400 to 2000 nm (Col. 4, lines 21-22. This anticipates the at least 50 microwatts/ cm² and the 2 W/cm² of the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1, 6-12, and 15-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,063,108 to Salansky et al. Salansky et al discloses an apparatus for treating tissue that uses radiation in the range of 400-2000nm (Col. 3, line 44) with an intensity of from 0.2 to 5000 mW/cm². The apparatus uses light emitting diodes (Col. 3, line 51) that inherently produce divergent radiation. Diodes, by definition, include a PN junction. Salansky et al

teaches the radiation can be either pulsed or continuous with average powers adjustable by the processor over a wide range by varying the pulse repetition rates over a wide range of hertz and the pulse durations from microsecond to milliseconds (Col 14, line 31). The treatments disclosed by Salansky et al, provide exposure times from 3 to 500 seconds (Table 8) and dosages in Joules/ cm² (Table 5) as is common in the art. A display shows system parameters such as timer, power, and frequency (Col. 23, line 24). Salansky et al teaches treating numerous afflictions including herpes (Col. 37, line 17). The treatments indicated in claims 7-9 are intended use and have been given limited patentable weight. Figure 13 shows a flexible applicator that can be wrapped around the surface contours of the body (Col. 26, line 1) that inherently reduces the amount of ambient light.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,063,108 to Salansky et al. Salansky et al does not disclose expressly the specific divergence of the emitting device. Applicant has not disclosed that the increased beam divergence provides any advantage or unexpected result. Therefore, pending a statement of criticality, the cited divergence is considered to be an obvious design choice to one having ordinary skill in the art.

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,063,108 to Salansky et al. Salansky et al cites repetition frequencies from 0 to 200 Hz

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and 1000 to 10,000 Hz, yet does not disclose 201 to 999 Hz specifically. Applicant has not disclosed that the specific repetition rate provides any advantage or unexpected result.

Salansky et al teaches treatment routines for many different afflictions that are programmed as protocols into the processor that controls the frequency, pulse width and repetition rate. There is no evidence that use of the unique frequency/repetition rate would produce any unexpected results. Therefore, pending a statement of criticality, the cited frequency/repetition rate is considered to be an obvious design choice to one having ordinary skill in the art.

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,063,108 to Salansky et al in view of U.S. Patent 5,527,350 to Grove et al. Salansky et al is discussed above. Grove discloses the use of gas lasers (Col. 1, line 56) in tissue treatment. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a gas laser as disclosed by Grove et al in the device of Salansky et al to obtain the wavelength desired for treatment.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,063,108 to Salansky et al in view of Lasers and Electro-Optics by Christopher C. Davis, Cambridge University Press 1996, page 289. Salansky et al does not specifically disclose a diode with multiple PN junctions. The use of multiple PN junctions is old and well known in the art of LED construction as disclosed by Lasers and Electro-Optics by Christopher C. Davis, thereby making their use an obvious design choice.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Henry M Johnson, III whose telephone number is (703) 305-0910. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

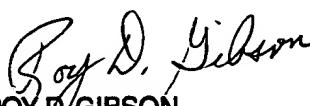
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda C Dvorak can be reached on (703) 308-0994. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Henry M Johnson, III
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3739

Hmj



ROY D. GIBSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER